

I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-18 (cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel, said wheel cover adapted to be mounted to a plurality of lug nuts of a wheel, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a wheel cover comprising a base having a front face, an oppositely disposed rear face and a central axis, said wheel cover further having a plurality of elongated ~~tubular~~ extensions having an ~~outboard~~ outer surface, an end ~~biasing~~ portion attached to said wheel cover base; and an opposite end extending in a direction away from said rear face, said plurality of elongated ~~tubular~~ extensions being circumferentially spaced about said central axis on said rear face, ~~said end biasing portion of each tubular extension being a solid tubular body, said opposite end of each of said plurality of tubular extensions being hollow and axially slotted to define a plurality of cantilevered fingers to an apical end providing a means for biasing a radially inner portion of at least one of said cantilevered fingers of each of said plurality of tubular extensions;~~

~~placing a plurality of locators in spaced relation to~~ providing a means for biasing at least one of said plurality of ~~tubular~~ extensions on said rear face of said wheel cover base;

~~placing said~~ providing a means for retaining on said ~~means for biasing in~~ said rear face of said wheel cover base in spaced relation to said plurality of extensions;
and

placing said means for biasing ~~on~~ against at least one of said plurality of extensions and into engagement with said means for retaining located on said rear face of said wheel cover base; ~~locators and on said means for retaining such that~~

whereby said means for biasing ~~means~~ biases said at least one of said cantilevered fingers of ~~each of~~ said plurality of ~~tubular~~ extensions in a direction towards said lug nuts to maintain engagement with said lug nut when said wheel cover is mounted to said wheel and further whereby said wheel cover is easily removable from said wheel without removing said means from biasing from ~~said plurality of locators and~~ engagement with said means for retaining.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a wheel as claimed in claim 19 further comprising the ~~steps~~ step of defining said means for retaining to permanently mount said biasing means to said wheel cover.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel as claimed in Claim 19 wherein each of said plurality of tubular extensions is integrally molded as a part of said wheel cover base.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of retaining a wheel cover to a vehicle wheel as claimed in Claim 19 further comprising the ~~steps~~ step of placing said plurality of elongated ~~tubular~~ extensions substantially concentric to said central axis of said wheel cover.